



in: Languages



Saanain

 [SIGN IN TO EDIT](#)

Saain is a Uralic language, specifically a Finnic language, with shared vocabulary between it, Finnish, and Estonian. It is spoken by around 1.5 million people in Saainmaa, a landlocked country, and is notable for its synthetic grammar and extremely flexible sentence structure.

Saanain [ˈsaːnajn]	
Type	Fusional
Alignment	Nominative–Accusative
Head direction	First
Tonal	No
Declensions	Yes
Conjugations	Yes
Genders	None
Nouns decline according to...	
Case	Number
Definiteness	Gender
Verbs conjugate according to...	
Voice	Mood
Person	Number

Tense	Aspect
Meta-information	
Progress	73%
Statistics [Expand]	
Creator	CaptainPiggles



Contents

[hide]

- 1. Classification and Dialects
- 2. Phonology
 - 2.1. Consonants
 - 2.2. Vowels
 - 2.3. Phonotactics
- 3. Writing System
- 4. Grammar
 - 4.1. Nouns
 - 4.2. Verbs
 - 4.3. Moods
 - 4.4. Connegativity
 - 4.5. Telicity
 - 4.6.
 - 4.7. Imperative and Interrogative
 - 4.8. Passive Voice
 - 4.8.1. Weak Form
 - 4.8.2. Strong Passive
 - 4.9. Infinitives
 - 4.10. Verbal Subjects
 - 4.11. Syntax
- 5. Lexicon
- 6. Example text
 - 6.1. Article I of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights





Classification and Dialects

Saanain is a Uralic language in the Finnic branch of those languages. It is mutually intelligible with Finnish and Estonian in its vocabulary but much less in its syntax and spoken forms.

It is spoken in four main dialects. The first is the Roettul dialect in the northern parts of Saanaimaa. The most spoken is the Saikkul dialect, spoken in the regions surrounding the capital, Saikkul. There are also the Southeastern and Southwestern dialects, each spoken in their respective areas. These dialects differ with the inclusion or deletion of Old Saanain phenomena, as well as the treatment of words and sentence structure. The Roettul dialect, being closer to the country Dora, which speaks the Slavic language **Dorian**, as well as the Anigarsko language closely related to Dorian, has introduced many Slavic loanwords into its vocabulary, while other dialects remain conservative in their borrowing. It is a fact, however, that all forms of Saanain have borrowed some words from Dorian or other Slavic languages, such as *kaytö* ("like" or "as", related to Dorian *kak* and related to Bulgarian *kakto*; *vulla* ("power", from Dorian *vul'a* and related to Bulgarian *volya*); and *siemka* (either derived from Proto-Finnic **seeme* or Dorian *syom'ka*, "seed").

Phonology

Consonants

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Post-alveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar
Nasal	/m/			/n/				/ŋ/
Plosive	/p/, /b/			/t/, /d/				/k/, /g/
Fricative				/s/				
Affricate								
Approximant		/ʋ/					/j/	
Trill				/r/				

Flap or tap				/r/					
Lateral fric.									
Lateral app.				/l/					
Lateral flap									



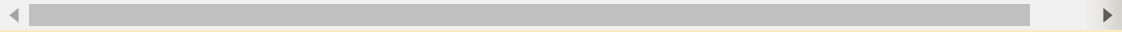
Vowels

	Front	Near-front	Central	Near-back	Back
Close	/i/, /y/				/u/
Near-close					
Close-mid	/e/, /ø/				/ɤ/, /o/
Mid					
Open-mid					
Near-open	/æ/				
Open					/ɑ/

Phonotactics

Writing System

Letter	a	b	d	e	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
Sound	/ɑ/	/b/	/d/, /r/	/e/	/g/	/h/	/i/	/j/	/k/	/l/	/m/
Letter	o	p	r	s	t	u	v	y	ä	ö	ü
Sound	/o/	/p/	/r/	/s/	/t/	/u/	/v/	/y/	/æ/	/ø/	/ɤ/
Letter											
Sound											



Grammar

Nouns

Nouns in Saanain inflect for case, number, and sometimes for their role in the sentence. There are 25 cases in Saanain, with one case, the supercomparative, generally counted as an extension of the comparative case, and the dative case almost never used. Nouns can be either singular or plural. They are inflected for one of the 25 cases.

For example, the noun *muonn*, roof, can be inflected as follows: *muonn* (nominative), *muonnon* (accusative), *muonnon* (genitive), *muossa* (elative), *muonnalta* (delative), *muosta* (ablative), *muonnta* (excessive), *muonntu* (inessive), *muonnina* (superessive), *muolla* (adessive), *muonna* (essive), *muomaa* (illative), *muonnata* (sublative), *muolle* (allative), *muoksi* (translative), *muonnse* (prolative), *muonn* (instructive), *muonne-* (comitative), *muottan* (distributive), *muonnta* (partitive), *muotta* (abessive), *muonnuo* (comparative), *muonnka* (superlative), *muonnas* (lative), *muolloin* (temporal, although technically not a correct construction), and the two side cases, *muonnuos* (supercomparative), *muonnod* (dative).

In some cases, nouns can be altered to reflect plurality in their stem when bound with a case suffix.

Nouns are also inflected in two numbers, singular and plural. The plural stem is usually (except in the case of the noun case stem) *-t*.

For example, *uuvuo*, wind, becomes *uuvuot* in the plural. However, when nouns end in consonants, the ending is changed so that the vowel before the last consonant in the word (the last vowel) is added to the *-t*. So, *muonn* becomes *muonn^ot*.

Since sentences usually follow either an SOV or an SVO order, nouns almost always come first. However, due to the highly versatile orders that sentences can take on, any sentence structure is (at least in theory) possible.

There is a small difference between two types of nouns that alters their case endings slightly in the accusative. These nouns become Accusative I nouns or Accusative II nouns according to their ending, respectively. Accusative I nouns make up the vast majority of nouns in sentences; they are formed by the regular accusative case ending *-(V)n*. Accusative II nouns, however, are used when they are one part of a phrasal object, that is, a phrase used as the object of a transitive verb. The last vowel is retained or *-in* becomes the accusative particle.

	Noun	Accusative I	Accusative II
	"kuulti" <i>gold</i>	kuultun	kuultin
	"uuvuo" <i>wind</i>	uuvuon	uuvuoin
Accusative I	Audon kuultun. (I give gold .)		
	give.1SG.PRES gold.ACC1.SG		
Accusative II	Audon kuultin riehinit. (I give <i>gold coins</i>).		
	give.1SG.PRES gold.GEN.SG coin.ACC2.SG.PL		

Verbs

Verbs are the most complicated part of Saanain grammar. They are inflected for voice, tense, mood, and connegativity (to four degrees).

The two voices in Saanain are active and passive. Saanain does not have a "common person" inflection like other Finnic languages.

English Pronoun	Person	Active Voice	Passive Voice*
I	än	audon (I give)	audassan (I am given)
you	hän	audot	audassat
he/she/it	es	audio	audassa
we	me	audone	audassane
you (all)	he	audote	audassate
they	ne	audat	audassaat

*Passive voice weak affirmative.

Saanain also conjugates for four tenses: present, perfect, imperfect, and pluperfect.

English Pronoun	Person	Present	Perfect	Imperfect	Pluperfect
I	än	tollon (I come)	oon tollonu (I have come)	tollin (I was coming)	ooin tollonu (I had come)
you	hän	tollot	oot tollonu	tollit	ooit tollonu
he/she/it	es	tollo	oo tollonu	tolli	ooi tollonu
we	me	tollone	oone tollonut	tolline	ooinetollonut
you (all)	he	tollote	oote tollonut	tollite	ooite tollonut
they	ne	tollat	ooi tollonut	tolliit	ööi tollonut

Moods

There are several moods that are taken into account when inflecting verbs. These include the conditional, potential, optative, eventive, regressive, casive, and assurative (or affirmative).

English Pronoun	Person	Conditional	Potential	Optative	Eventive	Regressive	Casive	Assurative
I	än	osan tollon	tollonen	tolloninse	tollallen	tollotestentue	tollonpakkasne	tollonheske
you	hän	osat tollot	tollonet	tollonitse	tollallet	tollotestettue	tollonpakkaste	tollonheske
he/she/it	es	osa tollon	tollone	tollonise	tollalle	tollotestetue	tollonpakkasne	tollonheske
we	me	osane tollon	tollonene	tolloninset	tollallenen	tollotestenentue	tollonpakkasnenet	tollonheskenet
you (all)	he	osate tollon	tollonete	tollonitese	tollallete	tollotestetetue	tollonpakkastene	tollonheskene
they	ne	osai tollat	tolloneat	tollonisiise	tollallei	tollotesteitue	tollonpakkasene	tollonheskene

Connegativity

Saanain connegativity uses four degrees of separation, the strong positive, the weak positive, the weak negative, and the strong negative. The strong forms have mostly fallen out of use, merging with the weak forms, but there was traditionally separation between them. The weak positive is the normal form of the verb, while the strong positive implies that the thing (being) done is or was the *only thing done*. The weak negative is the normal negative form of the verb, while the strong negative implies that the thing (being) done is or was the *only thing not being done*.

English Pronoun	Person	Strong Positive	Weak Positive	Weak Negative	Strong Negative
-----------------	--------	-----------------	---------------	---------------	-----------------

I	än	audotien	audon (I give)	en auden	en audetien
you	hän	audotiet	audot	en audet	en audetiet
he/she/it	es	audotie	audo	en aude	en audetie
we	me	audotiene	audone	en audene	en audetiene
you (all)	he	audotiete	audote	en audete	en audetiete
they	ne	audotiat	audat	en audeat	en audetiat

Telicity

Verbs do not have an aspect form, but they do have telicity. Like Finnish, Saanain uses a system wherein the object of a transitive verb is inflected with the accusative case ending for telic verbs and the distributive case ending for atelic verbs (though it is hard to tell how the latter originated).



	Telic	Atelic
Sentence	perrui perrommon	perrui perrommottan
	paint.3SG.IMP painting.ACC	paint.3SG.IMP painting.DIST
Meaning	(he/she/it) painted a painting (completely)	(he/she/it) painted a painting (and did not finish)

Imperative and Interrogative

There are two more forms for verbs, the imperative and interrogative.

English Person	Pronoun	Imperative Present	Imperative Perfect
you	hän	tollo (come!)	ollot tolo (have come!)
you (all)	he	tollot	ollote tollot
you*	hän	tollono	ollot tollono
you (all)*	he	tollonot	ollot tollonot

* The second imperative is frequently used in place of the first.

English Pronoun	Person	Present Interrogative	Imperfect Interrogative	Perfect Interrogative
I	än	tollokon (Am I coming?)	tollokoin (Was I coming?)	tollokeenossan (Have I come?)

you	hän	tollokot	tollokoit	tollokeenossat
he/she/it	es	tolloko	tolloko i	tollokeenossa
we	me	tollokonen	tolloko inen	tollokeenossanen
you (all)	he	tolloko te	tolloko ite	tollokeenossate
they	ne	tolloko ne	tolloko ine	tollokeenossane
I am not	än en	tolloken (Am I <i>not</i> coming?)	tollokein (Was I <i>not</i> coming?)	tollokeenessen (Have I <i>not</i> come?)
you are not	hän en	tolloket	tolloke it	tollokeenesset
he/she/it is not	es en	tolloke	tolloke i	tollokeenesse
we are not	me en (men)	tollokenen	tolloke inen	tollokeenessenen
you (all) are not	he en (hen)	tolloke te	tolloke ite	tollokeenessete
they are not	ne en (nen)	tolloken	tolloke ine	tollokeenessene

Passive Voice

The passive voice is divided into two degrees or "strengths" based on the function of the passive verb in the sentence.

Weak Form

Verbs in the passive voice are always weak.

English Pronoun	Person	Present	Imperfect	Potential	Conditional
I	än	audossan (I <i>am</i> given)	audioissan (I <i>was</i> given)	audoleenissan (I might <i>be</i> given)	osan audosiin (I would <i>be</i> given)
you	hän	audossat	audioissat	audoleenessat	osat audosiin

he/she/it	es	audossa	audioissa	audoleenessa	osa audosiin
we	me	audossane	audioissane	audoleenessane	osane audosiine
you (all)	he	audossate	audioissate	audoleenessate	osate audosiine
they	ne	audossaat	audioissaat	audoleenessaat	osai audosiine
I am not	än en	audossen (I am <i>not</i> <i>given</i>)	audeissan (I was <i>not</i> <i>given</i>)	audoleenessen (I might <i>not be</i> <i>given</i>)	osen audosien (I would <i>not</i> <i>be given</i>)
you are not	hän en	audosset	audeissat	audoleenesset	oset audosien
he/she/it is not	es en	audosse	audeissa	audoleenesse	ose audosien
we are not	me en (men)	audossene	audeissane	audoleenessene	osene audosiene
you (all) are not	he en (hen)	audossete	audeissate	audoleenessete	osete audosiene
the are not	ne en (nen)	audoesset	audeissaat	audoleenesset	osei audosiene

Strong Passive

Strong passive verbs are infinitives and gerunds only.

Bare Infinitives	Imperfect Infinitives	Perfect Infinitives
audova	audovain	audovanat
audovan	audioivain	audioivanat
audovana	audovanin	audovanit
audomiviene	audomivienein	audomivienet
audomuvienesani	audomuvienesaniin	audomuvienesaniit

*Infinitives are discussed more in the *Infinitives* section below.

Infinitives

Infinitives are the final form of verbs. They come in five types, the Type I, Type II, Type III, Type IV, and Type V infinitives.

Type I infinitives are the same as the English formation "to -". The ending for Type I infinitives is *-a*.

tollo- "come" > **tolloa** "to come"

Type II infinitives translate to "while -ing". Their ending is *-nu*.

audio- "give" > **audonu** "while giving"

Type III infinitives are the same as English gerunds. Their ending is *-ana*, with the last consonant of the stem deleted.

manhaatse- "control" > **manhaatsana** "controlling"

Type IV infinitives are the same as Type III infinitives but are used between different verbs or when combining to verbs. Their ending is *-minen*.

suu- "eat" > **suuminen** "eating"

Type V infinitives translate to "going to -" or "about to -". Their ending is *-munnesani*.

kyvo- "come" > **kyvomunnesani** "about to come"

Verbal Subjects

Saanain, being a pro-drop language, uses a system of using verbs and their conjugation as subjects of sentences. This system creates the verbal subject.

A verb is always conjugated for person, so any verb can carry a pronoun in its conjugation, without a pronoun or otherwise.

**The pronoun is *italicized*;
the conjugation which
carries the same meaning is
in bold; the verbal subject is
underlined.**

Case I	<i>Es</i> kuultun audio
Case II	Kuultun <u>audio</u>

In case I, the pronoun *es* is used (unnecessarily) to convey the meaning of *he/she/it*, so that the sentence translates to *he/she/it gives gold*. However, in case II, it can be inferred by the conjugation that the giver is *he/she/it*. This compound forms the verbal subject.

The verbal subject is used as a placeholder for a pronoun and a verb, and using it enables Saanain to form its various sentence orders. There is little difference, however, between the verbal subject and a regular verb. As a rule of thumb, any conjugated verb in a sentence that has undergone pro-drop is a verbal subject.

Syntax

Saanain is usually described as having an SOV or SVO sentence order, but due to its highly flexible morphology, it can take on any sentence order or syntax. This is furthered by its pro-drop characteristics, which (as discussed above) can create verbal subjects.

Lexicon

Example text

Article I of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

"Kokko misekihat seytssan vataan ja pahdan pöhdisyätä ja ongeten. Ne südene ja ontuunuune audassan ja toumosiatse etkuutu vialmmoherdetu."

Categories



Community content is available under [CC-BY-SA](#) unless otherwise noted.

 **Discord**

44 Members Online

General

MEMBERS ONLINE

 [kt̪ɛuk]

 a Losi

 a...

 AmGoober

 ArchivistOfEphamera

 Ben the 老外

 BigOofMan

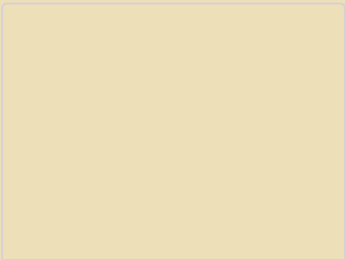
 Blavi Ris

 ChaosHawk

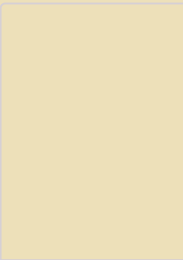
Hangout with people who get it

Join Discord

Recent Images



Giggitese
8/19/2024



Ito
8/18/2024

Popular Pages



Kalennian



Taka kina



Tora



Abbir



Kay(f)bop(t)

EXPLORE PROPERTIES

[Fandom](#)

[Muthead](#)

[Fanatical](#)

FOLLOW US



OVERVIEW

[What is Fandom?](#)

[Contact](#)

[Global Sitemap](#)

[About](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

[Local Sitemap](#)

[Careers](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Press](#)

[Digital Services Act](#)

COMMUNITY

[Community Central](#)

[Help](#)

[Support](#)

ADVERTISE

[Media Kit](#)

[Contact](#)

FANDOM APPS

Take your favorite fandoms with you and never miss a beat.

Conlang is a FANDOM Lifestyle Community.

[VIEW MOBILE SITE](#)

